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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/550,111	09/19/2005	Stephen D. Goble	21265P	1251
210	7590	08/06/2007	EXAMINER	
MERCK AND CO., INC P O BOX 2000 RAHWAY, NJ 07065-0907				HABTE, KAHSAY
ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER		
		1624		
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		08/06/2007		
		PAPER		

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/550,111	GOBLE ET AL.
	Examiner Kahsay Habte	Art Unit 1624

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 1 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on _____.
- 2a) This action is **FINAL**. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-37 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) _____ is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) 1-37 are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1-37 are pending in this application.

Election/Restrictions

2. Restriction is required under 35 U.S.C. 121 and 372.

This application contains the following inventions or groups of inventions which are not so linked as to form a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1.

In accordance with 37 CFR 1.499, applicant is required, in reply to this action, to elect a single invention to which the claims must be restricted.

Group I, claim(s) 1-3 (in part), 5, 10-13 (in part), 17-19 (in part) and 22-37 (in part), drawn to 1,3-benzothiazines (i.e. B = S and A = X = D = carbon).

Group II, claim(s) 1-3 (in part), 4, 10-13 (in part), 17-19 (in part) and 22-37 (in part), drawn to 1,3-benzoxazines (i.e. B = O and A = X = D = carbon).

Group III, claim(s) 1-3 (in part), 6, 10-13 (in part), 17-19 (in part) and 22-37 (in part), drawn to quinoxalines (i.e. B = N and A = X = D = carbon).

Group IV, claim(s) 1-3 (in part), 7, 10-13 (in part), 17-19 (in part) and 22-37 (in part), drawn to phthalazines (see claim 7).

Group V, claim(s) 1-3 (in part), 8, 10-13 (in part), 17-19 (in part) and 23-37 (in part), drawn to naphthyridines (see claims 8 and 9).

Group VI, claim(s) 1-3 (in part), 10-13 (in part), 14-16, 17-19 (in part) and 20-37 (in part), drawn to others.

The inventions listed as Groups I-VI do not relate to a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1 because, under PCT Rule 13.2, they lack the same or corresponding special technical features for the following reasons: the special technical feature of Group I is a benzothiazine ring (benzo ring fused to 1,3-thazine ring) and is

different from the special technical feature of Groups II-VI. The special technical feature of Group II is a benzoxazine ring (benzo ring fused to 1,3-oxazine ring) and is not present in the special technical feature of Group I of Groups III-VI. The special technical feature of Group III is a quinoxaline ring (benzo ring fused to 1,3-diazine ring) and is different from the special technical feature of Groups I-II and Groups IV-VI. The special technical feature of Group IV is a phthalazine ring (benzo ring fused to 1,2-diazine ring) and is different from the special technical feature of Groups I-III and Groups V-VI. The special technical feature of Group V is a naphthyridine ring (a pyrido ring fused to another monoazine ring) and is different from the special technical feature of Groups I-IV and VI. The special technical feature of Group VI is other heterocyclic rings that are not covered by Groups I-V e.g. 1,2-diazne ring fused to pyrido ring, oxazines ring fused to pyrido ring, etc. and is different from the special technical feature of Groups I-V.

If applicants elect Group VI, an election of a single disclosed species is required.

A telephone call was made to Mr. David Rubin on July 26, 2007 to request an oral election to the above restriction requirement, but did not result in an election being made.

Applicant is advised that the reply to this requirement to be complete must include (i) an election of a species or invention to be examined even though the requirement be traversed (37 CFR 1.143) and (ii) identification of the claims encompassing the elected invention.

The election of an invention or species may be made with or without traverse. To reserve a right to petition, the election must be made with traverse. If the reply does not distinctly and specifically point out supposed errors in the restriction requirement, the election shall be treated as an election without traverse.

Should applicant traverse on the ground that the inventions or species are not patentably distinct, applicant should submit evidence or identify such evidence now of record showing the inventions or species to be obvious variants or clearly admit on the record that this is the case. In either instance, if the examiner finds one of the inventions unpatentable over the prior art, the evidence or admission may be used in a rejection under 35 U.S.C.103(a) of the other invention.

Note that claim 18 is improperly dependent on claim 16. In order to expedite prosecution, it is recommended that applicants delete method claims 35-36 that may have enablement issues.

Conclusion

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Kahsay Habte whose telephone number is (571) 272-0667. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (9.00AM- 5:30PM).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, James O. Wilson can be reached at (571) 272-0661. The fax phone

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number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (571)-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Kahsay Habte
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 1624

July 31, 2007